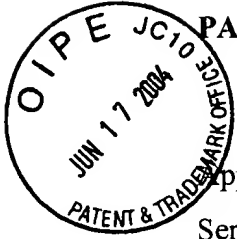


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Stemmler *et al.* Examiner: Gabel, Gailene  
Serial No.: 09/492,214 Group Art Unit: 1641  
Filed: January 27, 2000  
For: Quantitative Determination of Analytes in Heterogeneous Systems  
Customer No.: 23719

Kalow & Springut LLP  
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10022

June 15, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

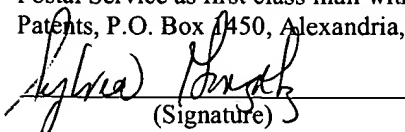
**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO NONFINAL OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

This amendment is a reply to the Office Action mailed on March 15, 2004 in connection with the above-identified application. The time set for filing a response to the Office Action expires on June 15, 2004 and thus this amendment and reply is timely filed.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
(Signature)

Sylvia Gonzalez  
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

June 15-2004  
(Date)